

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An industrial automation computer display presents cumulative or sequential messages to the user through an unobtrusive and discreet navigator and with audio-visual feedback. The messages related to fault-causing events are stored, and the last message is displayed in a space-saving manner in the navigator. A complete list of messages appears when the user requests it through a user-activated icon, allowing navigation to, and assessment of, the messages. After selection of an entry and initiation of a "jump" to the fault location, the list disappears and the discreet navigator is once again reduced to the original message indicator, which can also be made to disappear altogether until the next significant event occurs. That is, the user sees the complete list in a pop-up window for only as long as she/he needs to, and thus considerably more working area is made available.